Casual Labourers in the Ministry of Communications

1374. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of casual labourers in his Ministry and its offices/departments/subordinate offices/attached offices who have been made regular during the last three years (office-wise and year-wise);

(b) the number of casual workers who have been working for more than two years and have not been made regular and the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether his Ministry has formulated any time-bound programme for making them regular; if so, what are the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) and (b) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The Ministry follows the general Government orders in the matter.

Offices Housed in rented Buildings

1375. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the various offices of his Ministry/Subordinate offices/attached offices/Departments are housed in the rented buildings in Delhi and outside Delhi; if so, since when;

(b) the name of each office and the monthly rent of each building occupied along with the date of occupation;

(c) whether it is a fact that his Ministry is not interested to shift these offices from rented buildings to Government buildings; if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in negative what steps have been taken so far to shift these offices from rented buildings to lessen the burden on the exchequer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Efforts are being made to shift offices to Government buildings as soon as these become available.

Appointment of 'Ombudsmen'

1376. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Law Commission has in its recent report suggested the appointment of "Ombudsmen" to examine complaints against public authorities and to resolve disputes amicably in order to minimise litigation; and

(b) if so, what were the main recommendations of the Law Commission in this regard and what decision Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGANNATH KAUSHAL): (a) The Law Commission in its 100th Report entitled "Litigation by and against the Government. Some Recommendations for Reform" which was sent to the Government on 8th May, 1984 recommended, *inter-alia* appointment of Litigation Ombudsmen both at the Centre and in the States.

(b) The Report containing all the details and recommendations of the